GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:652
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2003
DEVELOPMENT OF HANDLOOM HANDICRAFTS
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH;JASWANT SINGH YADAV;KAILASH MEGHWAL;RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken adequate measures to fulfil the financial/technical needs of handloom/handicrafts sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds allocated for implementation of various schemes/programmes during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any specific scheme to promote the export of Indian handicrafts worldwide;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether some of the States have not extended the benefit of Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana to the weavers; and

(g) if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)

(a) & (b) The Government have taken adequate measures to fulfil the financial/technical needs of handlooms and handicrafts sectors in the country through implementation of various schemes.

The schemes under implementation for the development of handloom sector and handicraft sector are as under:

(i) Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana:With a view to improving the infrastructure facility for product diversification and quality up-gradation as well as supporting the efforts of marketing, design, consultancy etc., a comprehensive scheme called Deen Dayal Hathkargha Prorsahan Yojana has been introduced by the Government of India w.e.f. 1/4/2000. The scheme envisages product development, infrastructural support, institutional support, training to the weavers, supply of equipments and marketing support etc. both at macro and micro levels in an integrated and co-ordinated manner for an overall development of the handloom sector and the weavers.

(ii) Handloom Export Scheme:A scheme titled Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing (DEPM) was introduced during the year 1996-97 with the objective of giving substantial impetus to the export of handloom fabrics, made-ups and other handloom items from the country.

This scheme had provision for financial assistance to handloom agencies for building up, developing and marketing of exportable handloom products. The scheme covered activities towards development of export-worthy handloom products as design innovation, product diversification, modification of looms, skill upgradation, development of packaging etc. This scheme has been approved for continuation during the X Plan with the title `Handloom Export Scheme`.

(iii) Mill Gate Price Scheme: This scheme was introduced during the year 1992-93 in order to ensure adequate supply of all types of yarn to the weavers required for production of handloom items at prices prevailing at the Mill Gate, through the National Handloom Development Corporation.

(iv) Design Development And Training Programme (DDTP) The Design Development and Training Programme is a Scheme providing for upgradation of skills of weavers through a variety of training programmes, workshops and exhibitions, and for development of design inputs to be disseminated to weavers, collection of traditional designs, and the provision of linkages between various agencies in the handloom sector for coordinating the designs, technological and skill based factors for developing products to meet market demand and improve productivity of the handloom weavers. The Scheme comprises the components like; Strengthening of Weavers` Service Centres (WSC) and Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHTs) and Grant to IIHTs, Decentralized Training Programme for weavers, National Centre for Textile Design, Research and Development and Cooperative Training.

(v) Marketing Promotion Programme: Marketing Promotion Programme (MPP) is an integrated Scheme including components for Publicity and Awareness, setting up of Marketing Complexes and organization of Exhibitions and Fairs through various agencies to promote the marketing of handlooms in the country and to improve levels of awareness among handloom weavers and the general public in the interest of overall development of the handloom sector.

(vi) Workshed-Cum-Housing Scheme: This Scheme was introduced in 1985-86 with the objective of providing a dwelling unit and suitable work place for weavers so as to improve their productivity, quality of life and earnings. The Central assistance under the Scheme is provided for the construction of Rural/Urban Worksheds/Workshed-cum-Houses.

The Handicrafts Schemes include: Ambedkar Hastshilip Vikas Yojana (AHVY), training & extension, design & technical upgradation, marketing support & services, research & development, financial assistance to State Handicrafts Development Corporations/Apex Societies, export promotion etc. Five Regional Design and Technical Development Centres (RD&TDCs) located in Guwahati, Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi undertake development of new designs and improvement of tools and equipment. Besides, an Indian Institute of Carpet Technology has been set up at Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh to undertake research, development and academic activities, apart from facilities for testing various quality parameters of textiles and carpets, as well as to impart advanced training etc. Assistance is also extended to Central and State Corporations/ Co-operatives/ Voluntary organisations to engage design consultants.

(c) No State-wise funds are allocated in the handlooms & handicrafts sectors for promotion & development of handicrafts. However, funds to the tune of Rs.716.66 crore i.e. Rs.514.46 crore under handloom sector and Rs.220.20 crore under handicraft sector were released to various State Governments under different handloom and handicraft development schemes during the IX Plan.

(d) & (e) The schemes formulated to promote the export of Indian Handicrafts Worldwide include: organisation of buyer - seller`s meet; overseas publicity; organisation of workshops on design development; export marketing and packaging etc; participation in various international fairs; sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad; setting up of National level design center at Moradabad and New Delhi; and organisation of Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fairs (Autumn and Spring) by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, annually in New Delhi.

(f) & (g) The Governments of Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Mizoram, Sikkim, Pondicherry and Goa, and Andaman & Nicobar and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Administrations have not submitted any proposal under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana. All of them have been requested to formulate and forward viable proposals under the Scheme for the benefit of the weavers of their States.